

Intergenerational transmission

Mario Marrone

Contributions

- Clinical contributions
- Research data

Clinical contributions

Carl Jung (1875 - 1961)



Clinical contributions

Anna Freud (1895 – 1982)



Clinical contributions

Francoise Dolto (1908 – 1988)



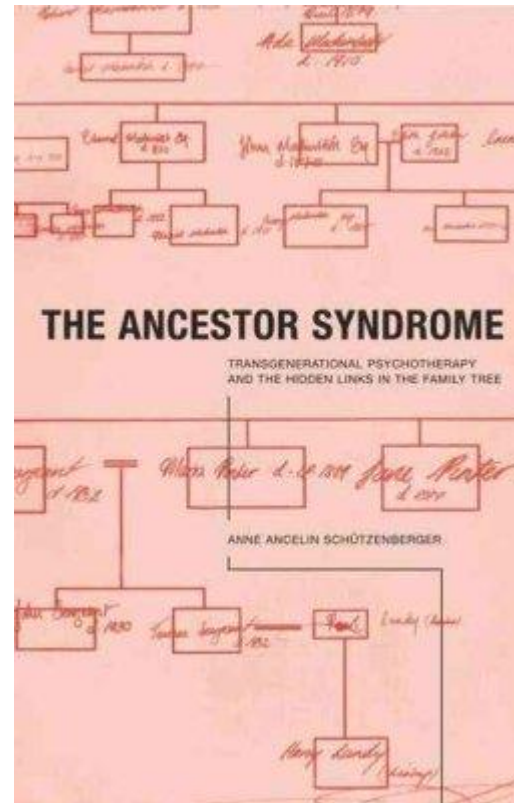
Clinical contributions

John Bowlby (1907 – 1990)



Clinical contributions

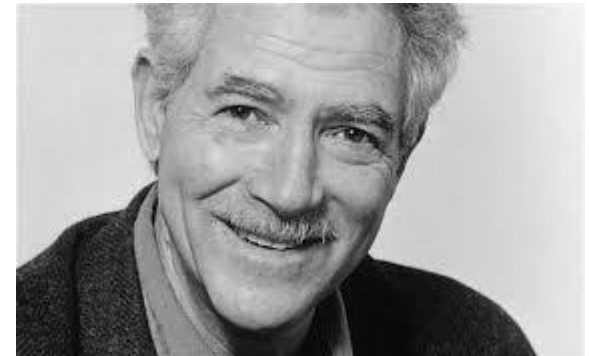
Anne Ancelin Schützenberger



Clinical contributions

Daniel Stern (1934 – 2012)

Rhythm and choreography of empathic responses



Clinical contributions

Bessel van der Kolk

Trauma



Clinical contributions

Vamik Volkan (Virginia, USA)

Intergenerational transmission of political trauma

Real-world problems are contaminated with shared perceptions, thoughts, fantasies and emotions belonging to the glories and traumas of the socio-political past: loss, humiliation, grief, feelings of entitlement, revenge, and reluctance to accept changes.



Clinical contributions

Selma Fraiberg
(1918–1981)

Ghosts in the nursery: identification with the aggressor



Clinical contributions

Bert Hellinger (Berchtesgaden, Alemania)

Family constellations



Clinical contributions

Alicia Lieberman (San Francisco)

Babies are “carriers” of fears, impulses and other parts of the psychological make up of their parents.

Children are often under pressure to act as recipients of their parents’ intolerable emotions and mental states.



Research data

Studies have shown a strong relationship between attachment security in adults, using the Adult Attachment Interview (AAI), and security in children, assessed by the strange situation procedure (SSP).

This suggests that mother's representations may influence the development of the mother-child attachment.



Research data

Mary Main:

Mothers' mental representations of their own attachment relationships during their childhood are an important predictor of attachment security of their children.



Research data

Marinus Van Ijzendoorn (Leiden, Holanda)



Key study

Fonagy P, Steele H, Steele M.

**Maternal Representations of Attachment
During Pregnancy Predict the Organization of
Infant-Mother Attachment at One Year of Age.**

Child Development. 1991; 26:891–905.



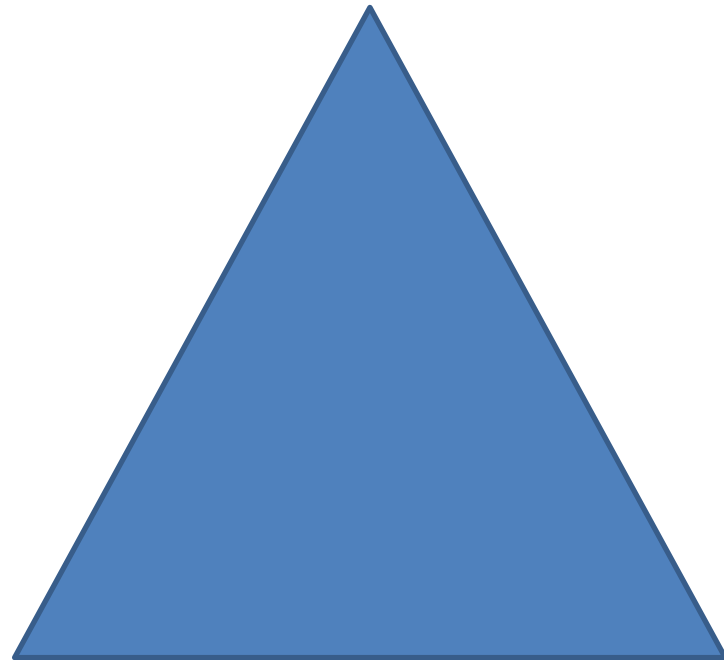
More recent studies

More recent studies suggest that the intergenerational transmission of attachment security is more complex than a direct replica of the mother's representation, and that the intergenerational transmission is multidimensional.

Prachi E. Shah, Universidad de Michigan



Higher levels of complexity



Bowlby: the attachment pyramid.

Higher levels of complexity

The systemic approach.



Mechanisms

Identification with early attachment figures.

Bowlby: for better or worse we treat others as we have been treated.



Mechanism

Repetition compulsion: to establish relationships that reproduce previous patterns of insecure or abusive relationships.



Mechanism

Value transmission

LA FAMILIA Y LOS VALORES HUMANOS

Ser padre y madre responsable conlleva la transmisión de los valores humanos que guían a los hijos a distinguir entre el bien y el mal.

An illustration of a family consisting of a father, a mother, and a young child. The father is on the left, wearing a green suit and glasses, with his arm around the mother. The mother is on the right, wearing a green top, with her arm around the child. The child is in the center, wearing a pink top. They are all smiling and appear to be in a warm embrace. The background of the illustration is yellow.

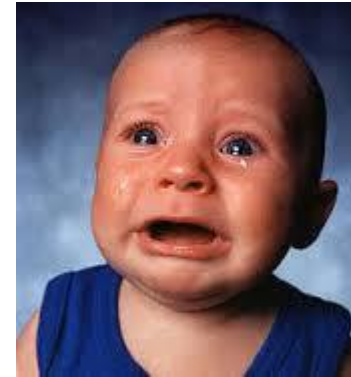
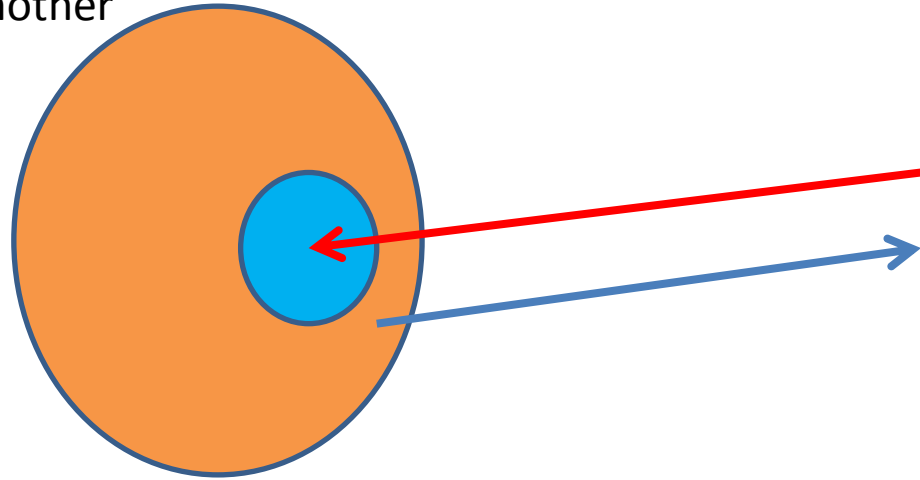
Mechanisms

Transmission of the degree of capacity to engage in reflective dialogues with:

- Open communication.
- Transparency.
- Sincerity.
- Honesty.
- Mutual empathy.
- Seeking negotiated solutions.



Securely attached
mother

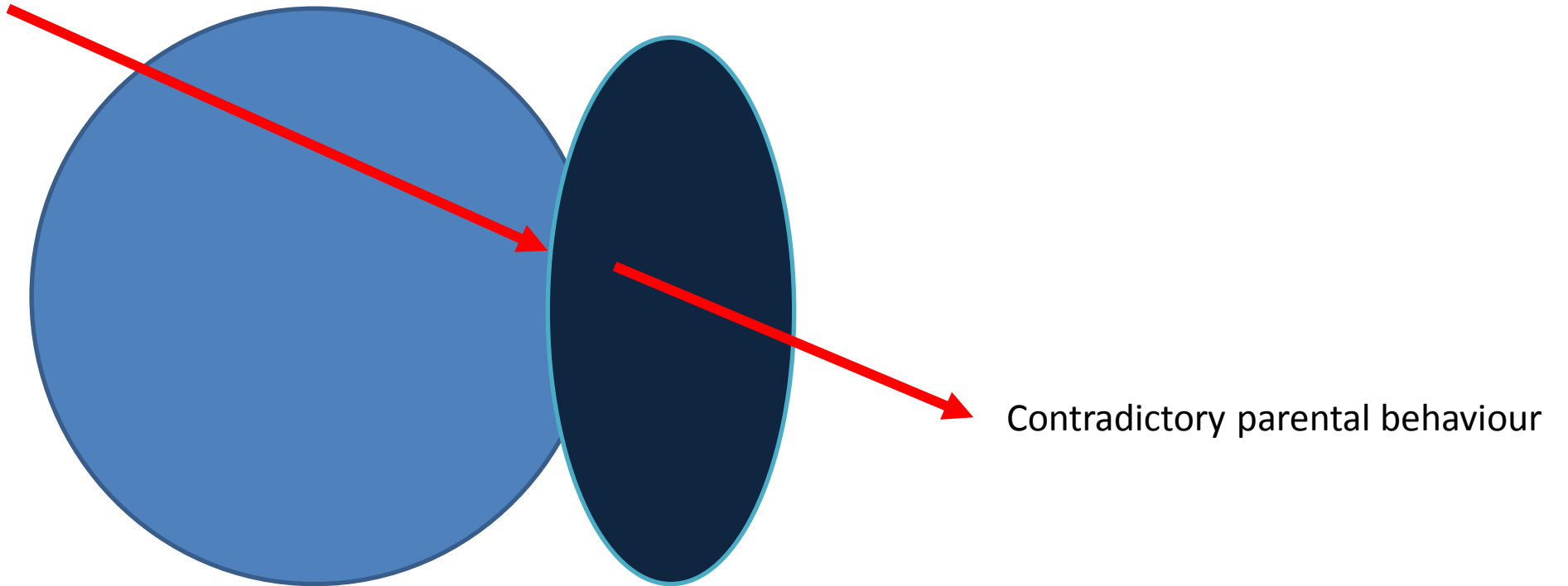


Sensitive responsiveness



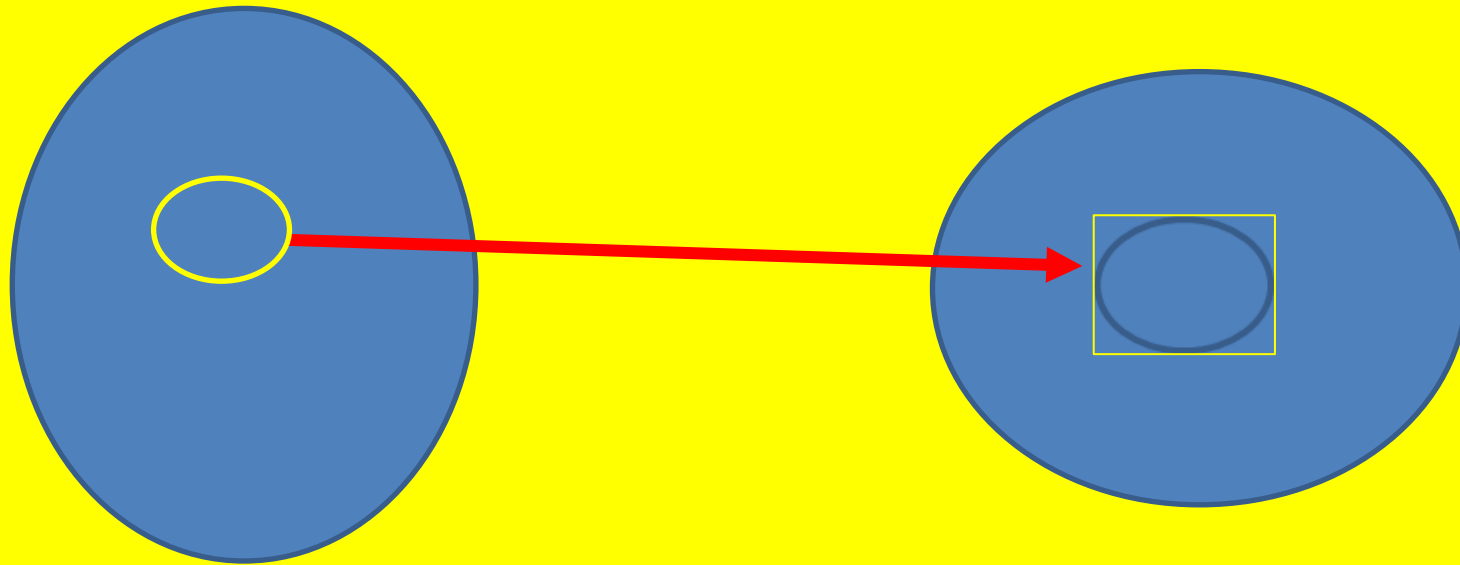
Disociative states

Early trauma



Contradictory parental behaviour

Too good parents



Intergenerational transmission is an important topic in psychotherapy because it allows to contextualize psychological phenomenon and understand family and parental dysfunction.

Using a psychotherapeutic approach that takes into account the intergenerational transmission, gives therapist and patient a more complete understanding of what is happening to him and his/her family.

The therapist will also help to broadly understand what happens to the patient so that he/she can make decisions based on this knowledge

Thank you.

drmario.marrone@gmail.com